

as swiftly as possible. It is long overdue. The country is ready. The victims' families, friends, and loved ones have been suffering indefinitely, and Congress needs to act.

Our purpose here today is not to open up old wounds. There is a need for those who committed horrible crimes to be brought to justice. This process of seeking justice is not just good for history's sake, but it is good for the process of healing. It will help us to put this dark past behind us and to bring closure to the families of the victims of these age-old and vicious crimes.

The Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act will deliver the added focus and resources necessary to get this job done. It is my hope and prayer that many murders committed during this Nation's struggle for civil rights will be solved as a result of this legislation. I will work tirelessly to see it passed.

SUPPORTING H.R. 365, THE METHAMPHETAMINE REMEDIATION RESEARCH ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H.R. 365, The Methamphetamine Remediation Act of 2007, which will help communities across North Carolina clean up methamphetamine labs and the dangerous toxins that they leave behind. We must work toward making our communities safer, while also protecting our environment against the harmful effects of methamphetamine.

The chemicals used in the production of methamphetamine are extremely hazardous to our health and to our environment. These chemicals are toxic both during production and in their post-production residue. They can cause soil contamination through chemical dumping, in addition to hazardous waste problems. This residue seeps into carpets, furnishings, drapery and walls, so anyone who occupies the space now or in the future will be exposed to the dangerous toxins. This is extremely alarming since two-thirds of all methamphetamine labs are found in residential areas. Future residents are often exposed to these toxic chemicals without even knowing it, with children particularly vulnerable to harm.

Despite the best efforts of our dedicated men and women in law enforcement, this problem is growing. In 2005 there were 322 methamphetamine lab incidents in North Carolina alone. In 2003, the Asheville Port of Duty targeted large methamphetamine trafficking group in the region that was distributing over 40 pounds of methamphetamine monthly to habitual users in Western North Carolina.

H.R. 365 addresses these problems in several ways. It will help protect innocent families against the after effects of methamphetamine labs and make our communities safer and cleaner places to live. It will direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to work with the EPA to develop technologies that will detect methamphetamine labs. The bill authorizes funding for the EPA to research the chemical residues and work with State and local officials to ensure that all levels of government are using the best practices for meth-

amphetamine lab recovery and remediation, so that future residents of a home are safe from harmful toxins.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to vote for this important legislation that will help protect our environment from pollution and our innocent families from the dangerous poisons that are imposed unknowingly upon them.

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND AMERICAN MONUMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, February 5 the House unanimously passed H.R. 161, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Monument Act of 2007. This measure would provide for the preservation of a historic site on Bainbridge Island, WA, where the first Japanese Americans were assembled for internment during World War II.

I thank my friend, Congressman JAY INSLEE, for his heartfelt commitment and leadership in introducing this legislation and working so effectively through the years to provide for this historic site. As an original cosponsor of this legislation and supporter of past efforts, I am proud to see its passage in the House. In addition, I wish to thank the Committee on Natural Resources and especially my friend, Chairman RAÚL GRIJALVA of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands for their support and quick action.

During the war hysteria in 1942, Executive Order 9066 was signed by President Roosevelt which effectively trampled on the rights of U.S. citizens by ordering the internment of approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans.

Due to the military importance of Bainbridge Island, WA, lawful Japanese American families of this community were the first to be forcibly removed from their homes and sent to internment sites. These families would not be able to return to the island for more than four years. H.R. 161 would preserve their story.

H.R. 161 would enact recommendations from the National Park Service by extending the boundary of the Minidoka Internment National Monument, located in Idaho, to include the Bainbridge Island site as a satellite location. The Minidoka internment camp was the final destination until the end of the war for most of the families from Bainbridge Island. Including the Bainbridge Island site into an existing national monument would make it eligible to receive grants for funding.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly grateful for the support H.R. 161 enjoyed in the House of Representatives, and I anticipate similar endorsement in the Senate. Memorializing the Bainbridge Island site will preserve the stories of injustice fallen on these innocent American families and serve as a reminder of how easily the civil rights can be discarded in guise of homeland security. Appropriately, the Bainbridge Island Memorial will be named Nidoto Nai Yoni, which translated from Japanese means "Let It Not Happen Again."

HONORING THE PADEREWSKI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S FEBRUARY 2007 PRODUCTION OF STANISLAW MONIUSZKO'S OPERA, THE HAUNTED MANOR

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 9, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the more than 110,000 Polish and Polish-American constituents of my district, as well as those of Polish descent around the country, I rise today to honor the late Polish composer Stanislaw Moniuszko. On February 10 and 11, the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra will perform Poland's national opera, The Haunted Manor, for audiences at the Rosemont Theater.

Considered the father of Polish opera, Moniuszko was born in the spring of 1819 to a patriotic family of Polish landowners living on the eastern edge of partitioned Poland. Revealing a passion for music at an early age, he began taking private piano lessons while still very young. In 1837, Moniuszko traveled to Berlin where he studied composition and choral conducting. By 1840, the young artist had already composed several operas as well as sacred music and secular cantatas.

Moniuszko became well-known for his many songs, operas, and ballets filled with patriotic and Polish folk themes. His music is quite stylistically distinct while incorporating various national motifs including certain Polish dances and folk tunes.

To this day, Moniuszko is considered one of Poland's great composers. One of his most famous operas is *Straszny Dwór*, or The Haunted Manor. In it, Moniuszko depicts Polish nobility and gentry while emphasizing Polish customs and traditions. The comic opera is claimed as Poland's national opera, as it encompasses different levels of society, and it has a vitality that speaks to everyone.

During his professional life, Moniuszko traveled numerous times to St. Petersburg to give concerts, so it is fitting that his works are traveling across the ocean to be performed by the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Moniuszko and honor his success, as well as to commend the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra for bringing this important part of Poland's history to the Polish and Polish-American communities in the United States.

RECOGNIZING BENJAMIN LITTLE BEAR BRINK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 9, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin Little Bear Brink, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 388, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities.